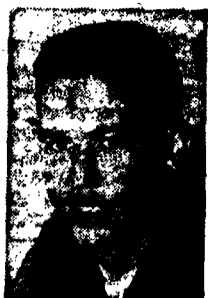


Penn State Sports—

# ON the LINE

By ROY WILLIAMS  
Sports Editor



## SPEIDEL AND W.W. II

If we learned anything yesterday during a two-hour talk with wrestling coach Charlie Speidel, one thing is paramount—the slightly balding mat mentor is a veritable storehouse for newspaper copy.

As we entered his office in 237 Recreation Hall, Charlie was busily penciling in notes on a report on one of his coming wrestling foes. He didn't look up but issued a cheery "Hi-ya Doc," a greeting that is synonymous for all those who know him—whether it's his boss or squad members, or friends and strangers alike.

As we sat down, Charlie finished his work, and cleared a spot on his desk which was cluttered with wrestling brochures, notes, and figures and motion picture reels.

"What d'ya want, Doc," Charlie smiled as he put his feet on his desk and leaned back in his swivel chair. Jokingly, we asked him for a starting lineup for his first wrestling meet in January.

We didn't wait for an answer because on such things Charlie's particularly mum: instead we said we were looking for a few personal notes for a column about him.

"Go on," Charlie said, "don't write about me; here, write about this." From his files he pulled a yellowing, torn clipping datelined State College.

The headline read: "Penn State Points With Pride to War Record of Hardy Matmen."

This was a story on wrestlers—Speidel's former proteges—which were included among approximately 50 former athletes that were reported dead or missing along with 150 or more of their classmates in World War II.

Charlie pointed to a full-length picture. "There's one for you," he said. It was Lt. Joe Valla of Blairsville, listed with an anti-aircraft unit in Italy.

"He's coaching at A mityville H.S. in Long Island, New York," Charlie explained. His team this year won the championship that had been dominated by Mephram H. S. which boasted a string of 135 wins with teams that handily dominated high school wrestling throughout the East.

Locally, however, Valla is one of the many who have played an instrumental part in the phenomenal success of Penn State wrestling—particularly in the last five years when Speidel saw his team

win 34 straight from 1950 to 1954. Valla sent Dick and Joe Lemyre to Penn State from his high school team. The elder Joe was 1952 National and Eastern champ; younger Dick was a three-time winner of the 130-pound Eastern crown.

Valla sent last year's captain, Bob Homan, who copped the 173-pound Eastern title in 1952. And most recently, Valla sent Sid Medianski, now a junior, who wrestled to a 9-1-2 card last year, losing his only match to Pitt's Bill Hulings in the semi-final action of the Easterns.

While Speidel's wrestlers cropped up across the pages during wartime, Charlie saw his World War II action as a Navy Lieutenant Commander. Serving from early 1942 until the middle of 1946, Speidel first served at North Carolina Pre-Flight for two years, and then ten months at sea. After globetrotting, he took over as commander of a Pacific atoll where battle-weary seamen went for recreation and physical reconditioning.

He was so active he owned a reputation as one of the best rough-and-tumble fighters in the Navy. When a New York Times War correspondent visited the island recluse, his dispatch to his newspaper said: "The boss of the island is a lieutenant commander, the only naval officer this correspondent has seen who has cauliflower ears."

Asked if he wrestled, Speidel quipped as he pointed to his head. "Do you think I got these from brick buildings falling on me?"

Seven of Speidel's former matmen were spread halfway around the world in action in Normandy, Holland, Africa, and China. They did everything from instructing future bombardiers to blowing up more than 150 bridges, 20 to 30 ferries, 50 roadblocks, and an assortment of locomotives in China (this was handled by Major Frank Gleason, 25-year-old Wilkes-Barre native).

With the clock indicating Speidel was soon due at practice, we returned to our original question.

## Phi Kappa's Spark Bowling With 3-1 Win

Phi Kappa's Intramural bowling team highlighted the action at the Recreation Hall bowling alleys on Wednesday night.

The fraternity men not only knocked Theta Delta Chi from the League B lead with a 3-1 win, but also dominated the high scoring of the night. Phi Kappa is now in a three-way tie for second place with Theta Delta and Beaver House.

Delta Sigma Lambda moved into first place thanks to the help of Phi Kappa. Delta Sigma Lambda, with a 24-7 record, shut out Phi Mu Delta, 4-0.

In other games, Beaver House stopped Delta Theta Sigma, 3-1; and Alpha Rho Chi copped a forfeit from Phi Epsilon Pi.

Chuck Horvat, Phi Kappa, rolled a 197 to win the high individual single. Earlier he had scored 187 points in the first game and 176 in the second. This gave him a grand total of 560 points, high for the evening.

His teammates backed him up when they bowled. 853 in the first game to walk off with the high team single. They kept up their power in the two other games to win the high triple with 2501.

## IM Boxing —

(Continued from page six)  
Phi, in the slowest bout of the night.

Epstein, wanting to mix it up, could not get his attack started as Klose kept swinging and clinching throughout the fight. However, the AEPi landed a few good left hands to win the battle.

Earl Cairns, Theta Xi, grabbed a split decision over Bernie Huebel, Delta Sigma Phi, in the closest fight of the evening. Both handled themselves well, but Cairns scored with the more effective punches to sway the votes of the judges.

Ben Wright, Kappa Alpha Psi, decisioned Fred Martin, Pi Kappa Phi, in another well-matched fight. Both men displayed a willingness to fight, but the taller Wright used his height to an advantage as he banged away at Martin's head and body.

In the final bout, Dick King, Lambda Chi Alpha, defeated Owen Best, Phi Kappa Sigma, when the bout was stopped early in the third round.

Forfeit winners were Joel Gamble, Phi Sigma Kappa, and Don Tremonte, Delta Upsilon.

How about a lineup, Charlie, we asked.

This time we got an answer, but not exactly what we wanted—though we expected it—when Charlie mused: "Come back in a couple of weeks."

## 3 Booters in New York For Olympic Tryouts

Three Penn State soccer players—All-American Dick Packer, Ihor Stelnyk, and Per Torgersen—left yesterday for the Olympic tryouts in New York.

The three will join a group of other college players in New York, and will hold a practice session this afternoon. The college players will play an Eastern amateur team tomorrow in a game which will decide the players to be picked for further Olympic tryouts.

The selection of the top 24 players in tomorrow's game will be made by three coaches of the Association of Coaches—Glenn Warner, Navy; Jim Reed, Princeton; and Carlton Riely, Brooklyn College.

Where the 24 players will go, or whom they will play after to-

morrow's game, is still undecided, and will not be known for at least a week.

Selection of players by their coaches was instituted this year because the shortness of time would not allow a North-South game to be played, and the only other possible way to pick players of Olympic caliber was to have the coaches do the job.

Soccer Coach Ken Hosterman picked his three, including a freshman, late in October. The freshman, Torgersen, hails from Norway, and is considered one of the finest freshman players to enroll here by Hosterman.

Packer and Stelnyk were members of this year's undefeated team, and were main cogs in the winning record established by the booters.

## A Gift for Him

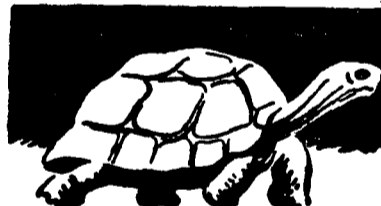
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## Going to the Mil Ball?

It all started this Fall when I took my physical with all the other ROTC boys. I passed the eye, ear, nose and throat parts but when they inspected my shell they found out that I had shell-lumbago. I went to see the General and he told me that if it weren't for my lack of speed he could overlook the shell disease. He said he was sorry but I was still out in the cold. I really planned on another gung-ho semester in the corps and the biggest disappointment is not being able to go to the Mil Ball. I had made plans to borrow my roommate's sharp Navy uniform, I had a date with a cute little blond turtle from Simmons and now I'll have to stand her by.

This is worse than not being able to go to the Junior Prom. At least that week-end I went party hopping and humans, did I have a good time. I went to a cave man party where there seemed to be all sorts of monsters running around with clubs and bear skins. I went to a beach party and it was fine until they buried me alive with an empty keg of root beer. This week-end it's a different story—I feel so bad missing the dance and I can't even afford a tux for the Pledge dances. Of course I could go to the Sigma Phi Nothing house wearing my new turtle tweed sport coat but that wouldn't sell either because they'll all be wearing white dinner jackets.

So anyhow, I hope you'll all enjoy the Mil Ball week-end and don't forget to stop in at the Finer Diner 'cause all your friends will be there throughout the week for one of those swell snacks after the dance and all the parties.

## PENN STATE DINER

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